

00684.003120



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: L. Nguyen
MINEO KANEKO ET AL.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2861
Application No.: 09/742,431)	
	:	
Filed: December 22, 2000)	
	:	
For: LIQUID EJECTING RECORDING)	
HEAD AND LIQUID EJECTING	:	
RECORDING APPARATUS)	September 23, 2004

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are enclosed.

The listed documents were cited in a Japanese Office Action in a corresponding application. Japanese Laid-open Patent Application Nos. 58-215352 and 9-11479, also cited in the Japanese Office Action, are not listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 because they were previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) dated March 29, 2001 and were

considered by the Examiner, as indicated by the initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 returned with the Office Action dated January 16, 2002.

U.S. Patent No. 4,593,295 is a counterpart to Japanese Laid-open Patent Application No. 58-215352. Although U.S. Patent No. 4,593,295 was previously cited in two IDS's filed in the subject application, it was incorrectly listed on the Forms PTO-1449 submitted with those IDS's. Specifically, in the IDS dated March 29, 2001 the patent number was incorrectly listed as "4,593,293," and in the IDS dated August 22, 2001 the issue date was incorrectly listed as "06/03/85."

Abstracts for Japanese Laid-open Patent Application Nos. 8-207291, 8-207320, 10-140487 and 11-320926, obtained from a commercial database, are enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

U.S. Patent Nos. 5,621,524 and 5,697,144 are U.S. counterparts to Japanese Laid-open Patent Application No. 8-207291.

The following is a translation of an excerpt of the Japanese Examiner's comments in the Japanese Office Action concerning the documents cited therein.

Claim 1, 3 and 5: description in Japanese Laid-open Patent Application No. 10-140487 relating to Figure 5, paragraphs 0040 and 0048 should be particularly noted.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7: description in Japanese Laid-open Patent Application No. 11-320926 relating to Figure 7 and paragraph 0030 should be particularly noted.

Claims 1, 3, 6 and 7: description in Japanese Laid-open Patent Application No. 58-215352 relating to Figure 4 and Claim 1 should be particularly noted.

Claims 2, 2-12 and 14: as regards the features of Claims 2, 8 and 9, description in Japanese Laid-open Patent Application No. 8-207320 relating to Figures 14 and 23, and paragraph 0073; and as regards the features of Claims 2, 10-12, the description in Japanese Laid-open Patent Application No. 8-207291 relating to Figure 5, paragraphs 0036 and 0037.

Use of one ink passage commonly for supplying ink to a plurality of nozzle arrays, are disclosed in Figure 14 of Japanese Laid-open Patent Application No. 8-207320 and Figure 5 of Japanese Laid-open Patent Application No. 8-207291.

Claim 13: Japanese Laid-open Patent Application Nos. 10-140487, 11-320926, 58-215352, 8-207320, 8-207291 and 9-11479 are relevant; as regards the feature added in Claim 13, the description in Japanese Laid-open Patent Application No. 9-11479 in paragraph 0036.

FORMAL MATTERS

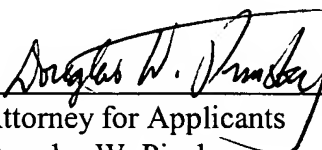
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4), neither a fee nor a statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Douglas W. Pinsky
Registration No. 46,994

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
DWP/tmc



FORM PTO 1449 (modified)			ATTY DOCKET NO. 00684.003120		APPLICATION NO. 09/742,431	
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			APPLICANT MINEO KANEKO ET AL.			
			FILING DATE December 22, 2000		GROUP 2861	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)						
September 23, 2004						
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,593,295	06/1986	Matsufuji et al.		
		5,621,524	04/1997	Mitani		
		5,697,144	12/1997	Mitani et al.		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		JP 8-207291	08/1996	Japan		Abstract*
		JP 8-207320	08/1996	Japan		Abstract
		JP 10-140487	05/1998	Japan		Abstract
		JP 11-320926	11/1999	Japan		Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
*Note: counterpart U.S. Patent Nos. 5,621,524 and 5,697,144 also submitted.						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicants.

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